

NEWS LETTER
OF THE
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF NORTH CAROLINA

Raleigh, North Carolina

May 15, 1944

Greetings From the President of the Society

The Archaeological Society of North Carolina has proved itself to be a tenacious and virile organization. Originating in a year of economic depression and continuing to have an active loyal membership under war-time conditions, it is effective evidence of a fundamental interest in the State in matters archaeological. Even under present limitations, we have the opportunity to carry forward the development of the Society and to prepare for an expanded program when post-war conditions permit. Thus, this bulletin presents a statement about tangible accomplishments in the past and of our hopes for the future.

Officers of the Society for 1944

Vice-President

J. R. Shipley
Asheville

President

Sanford Winston
Raleigh

Editor

Mrs. J. B. Derieux
2802 Hillsboro St.
Raleigh

Secretary-Treasurer

Raymond Adams
Chapel Hill

Field Director

(on leave)
Joffre L. Coe
Chapel Hill

Executive Board

Composed of the above officers and following elected members:

Term expiring in 1944
John Gillen
Durham
Thurmond Chatham
Winston-Salem

Term expiring in 1945
John Shipley
Winston-Salem
J. E. Steere
Charlotte

Term expiring in 1946
James B. Bullitt
Chapel Hill
C. C. Crittenden
Raleigh

EDITORIALS

Our First Decade

The Archaeological Society of North Carolina has rounded out its first decade of activity. It is most encouraging to note that the society has made excellent progress on a number of projects which were outlined in the early years of its existence.

The first work to be undertaken was a survey of the known or suspected ancient sites of the state. Additions to this survey are still being made as interested citizens write to the officers of the society or to Mr. Harry T. Davis, Director of the State Museum, describing peculiar earthworks or the location of numerous artifacts which are to be found on their property or in the neighborhood.

North Carolina was fortunate to be among the several states which were selected by the Federal Government for archaeological investigation in 1934. The newly organized society was fortunate also, when the governmental decision was made to include scientific excavation as legitimate C.W.A. projects. In addition to this timely aid the society has been assisted by the State Museum in carrying forward its plans.

Archaeological accomplishments of the society during its first decade of existence include the excavation of the Keyauwee Village site in Randolph County, the excavation of the Occaneechi Village near Hillsboro, explorations conducted on three islands in the Roanoke River below the junction of the Staunton and Dan Rivers, the excavation of the Sara Village in the Dan River and the Sapona Village on the Yadkin River near Salisbury. Extensive investigation also has been carried out at the Frutchey mound near Mt. Gilead.

North Carolina's first Archaeological Reservation came into existence on May 15, 1937 when a prehistoric mound was presented to the State by the owners, Mr. and Mrs. L.D. Frutchey. An interesting ceremony marked the formal transfer of this ancient earthwork. It is hoped that it will not be long before a small museum can be erected near the mound for the housing and display of the artifacts which have been found in this area. This site is now a part of the State Park system and will receive permanent care.

Artifacts which have been found during the past decade have been identified and classified and a number of them have been placed on display at the State Museum, Raleigh, the Wachovia Museum, Winston-Salem and the State University at Chapel Hill.

Archaeological Activity In The Southeastern States

The past decade has witnessed unusual archaeological activity in the Southeastern States. Among the most outstanding accomplishments of this period, perhaps, are the explorations and restoration projects which have been conducted in the Ocmulgee area at Macon, Georgia, and the intensive investigations which were carried out in areas which were to be covered by the impounding waters of the Tennessee River.

Extensive archaeological investigations have been carried out during this period by Alabama, Louisiana, Kentucky and Florida.

With Dr. Guy B. Johnson out of the state the Archaeological Society has a real gap to fill. The gap is not in the roster of officers, for the present bulletin is evidence that his job as editor has already fallen into good hands. Rather, the gap is in the area of unselfish interest in the entire work, membership, and very existence of the society. There are a few people who have followed the society through its entire history as guides and advisers, and a gap in their ranks can hardly be filled.

The announcement issued recently by the Institute for Research in Social Science at the university, in spite of its not mentioning the interest in archaeology and a lot of other interests of Guy Johnson, seems worth quoting in full:

Announcement has just been made of the election of Professor Guy B. Johnson of the University of North Carolina as executive director of the newly organized Southern Regional Council with headquarters at Atlanta. Dr. Ira B. Reid of Atlanta University was elected associate director. The functions of this council as stated in the charter are the improvement of economic, civic, and racial conditions in the South, in the endeavor to promote a greater unity in the South in all efforts towards regional and racial development; to attain through research and action programs the ideals and practices of equal opportunities for all peoples in the region; to reduce race tension, racial misunderstanding, and racial distrust; to develop and integrate leadership in the South on new levels of regional development and fellowship; and to cooperate with local, state, and regional agencies on all levels in the attainment of the desired objectives.

Dr. Johnson, as research professor in charge of racial studies at the University of North Carolina Institute for Research in Social Science and as a member of the Board of Trustees of Howard University at Washington, has done distinguished work in both the South and Nation at large. In addition to his own publications, which have been numerous, and his work in national committees, he has just recently participated in the Myrdal-Carnegie study of the American Negro, in which he was in charge of the sociological aspects of the inquiry. Both he and Mrs. Johnson contributed largely to those studies and are preparing special volumes as the outgrowth.

Dr. Johnson is a native Texan, holds the M.A. degree from the University of Chicago, Ph.D. from the University of North Carolina, and has done field work in anthropology under the direction of Yale University. He has worked with the Social Science Research Council and the University of Chicago in special studies and equipment for anthropological research. His publications include a very large number of journal articles and special volumes on Folk Culture on St. Helena's Island, South Carolina; John Henry; and he has collaborated in the volumes on the The Negro and His Songs and Negro Workaday Songs. Dr. Johnson's election has been acclaimed with great enthusiasm by both races North and South, and the work of the Council is estimated to be one of the most important in the Nation at this time.

One could add a good deal to that statement; but one hardly needs to detail the many offices Dr. Johnson has held in our little society nor the scientific and friendly spirit he has developed among us. He is already at work in Atlanta, where his address is 710 Standard Bldg., 95 Fairlie St., N. W.

R.A.

Here and There

The archaeological materials and records which the Society and the University gathered at Chapel Hill just before the war are at present on file and in storage in space made available by the sociology department there. With Guy Johnson no longer on hand, and Robert Wauchope and Joffre Coe both away from Chapel Hill, access to the material is not easy, for it is not the kind of thing that a novice should prowl through. But things are safe, records are made, and after the war the work can be resumed. Not everything in our world is likely to be just as it was left when the war came on. We probably want many changes all together, but not among arrowheads and bone necklaces.

While in Washington, D. C. last summer Mr. Rights received a generous offer from Dr. Frank M. Setzler of the Smithsonian Institute to send some of the representative material which was excavated at the Peachtree Mound to the museums of North Carolina. Mr. Rights suggested State Museum, Chapel Hill Laboratory, and the Wachovia Museum. A box of pottery specimens has arrived at the Wachovia Museum and will be placed in cases for special exhibit. Peachtree Mound was excavated in 1933-4. A detailed account is to be found in Bulletin 131 of the Bureau of American Ethnology. This study was prepared by Dr. Setzler and Jesse D. Jennings.

Among the interesting and valuable booklets which are issued by the National Park Service in their Popular Study Service are two which will be of special interest to members of the society. "Pre-historic Cultures of the Southeast" and "New Echota, Birthplace of the American Indian Press," can be secured from the U. S. Dept. of the Interior, Washington, D. C. for ten cents each.

Several members have recently sent in their dues and that leads the treasurer to hope that others have overlooked the payment of theirs. A dollar will bring one's membership up to date. If you are at all interested in the work and future of the Society and have not paid your dollar, please send it to the treasurer: Raymond Adams, Box 762, Chapel Hill, North Carolina.

At the present moment world history is being written so rapidly that there is slight possibility of doing more than recording present events for future study. With the arrival of peace, however, scientific investigations will be resumed on a larger scale and with a greater number of interested workers taking part. Many soldiers in the Armed Forces are now either stationed or fighting over some of the oldest occupied country in the world. Their interest has been stimulated not only in the ancient lands in which they find themselves but in the manners and customs of the people. Many of these interested soldiers of today will become tomorrow's students of archaeology and anthropology.

Post-Script: If any reader has any item of general interest to the Society, please send it to the Editor.